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NESCO

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN, BAGHDAD,
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TAGS: OCON, PORG, UNESCO, XF

SUBJ: 99TH EXBD: AGENDA ITEM 9.2 REPORT OF UNESCO DIRECTOR

GENERAL RE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES (DOCUMENT 99 EX/50)

SUMMARY: LONG-AWAITED SECRETARIAT REPORT ON
EDUCATIONAL-CULTURAL SITUATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES
WAS ISSUED APRIL 27--AIRPOUCHED AND AIRMAILED TO
DEPARTMENT APRIL 28--AND LIKELY WILL PROMPT STRONG
ISRAELI-ARAB EXCHANGES, AND ESPECIALLY GOI CRITICISM
THAT REPORT BIASED, AND THEREBY INCREASE POSSIBILITY OF
ANOTHER HARSH ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLUTION
BEING INTRODUCED BY ARABS AT MAY 24 BOARD SESSION WHEN
AGENDA ITEM IS CONSIDERED. DEPARTMENT'S CLOSE ANALYSIS
OF DOCUMENT AND ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON COMPLAINTS
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IS REQUESTED. PERMDEL WOULD ALSO RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT

CONSIDER NOW GOING TO CAPITALS OF LDC'S AS WELL AS WEO'S BOARD MEMBERS (A) TO MAKE KNOWN CLEARLY U.S. VIEWS ON ISSUE AND (B) SEEK THEIR SUPPORT FOR U.S. POSITION.
END SUMMARY.

1. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, SUBJECT AGENDA ITEM BASED ON UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 13.1 -- VOTED AGAINST BY U.S. AND ISRAEL -- WHICH /NOTED WITH ANXIETY" ENJOYING "RIGHTS TO NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL LIFE," CALLED UPON DIRECTOR GENERAL TO "COOPERATE WITH ARAB STATES AND PLO IN ORDER TO PROVIDE POPULATIONS OF THESE TERRITORIES WITH MEANS OF ENJOYING THESE RIGHTS, APPEALED "URGENTLY" TO ISRAEL TO REFRAIN FROM ACTS HINDERING POPULATION'S EXERCISE OF RIGHTS TO "NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL LIFE" AND INVITED ISRAELIS TO ALLOW UNESCO'S DG TO CARRY OUT TASK OF REPORTING TO UNESCO'S EXECUTIVE BOARD ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTION. DG'S REPORT HAS BEEN DEFERRED AS AN EXECUTIVE BOARD AGENDA ITEM UNTIL THIS SESSION OF THE EXBD.

2. ON APRIL 27 SUBJECT DG REPORT WAS ISSUED FOR SCHEDULED CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM AT MAY 24 BOARD SESSION.

3. SUBJECT DOCUMENT LIKELY TO PROMPT STRONG ISRAELI REACTION, ISRAELI-ARAB EXCHANGES, AND THEREBY ARAB INTRODUCTION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION HARSHLY CRITICAL OF GOI. COPIES OF SUBJECT DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN SENT TO DEPARTMENT BY AIR POUCH AND BY INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL TO HEATER, IO/UNESCO.

4. IN ESSENCE, FOURTEEN PAGE REPORT IS DIVIDED INTO: SECTIONS (A) DETAILING CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN UNESCO AND GOI; (B) WITH EGYPT, JORDAN, KUWAIT, SYRIA, AS WELL AS OLO AND ARAB LEAGUE EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION (ALESCO); AND (C) OUTLINING POSSIBLE UNESCO PROJECTS FOR PROVIDING POPULATIONS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WITH "EVERY MEANS OF ENJOYING THEIR RIGHTS TO EDUCATION AND CULTURE SO AS TO PRESERVE THEIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONAL IDENTITY."

5. CHRONOLOGY OF CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSIONS WITH GOI: DOCUMENT CITES LETTERS FROM UNESCO'S DIRECTOR GENERAL SENT IN DECEMBER 1974, FEBRUARY 1975, A JULY 1975 MISSION OF TWO UNESCO OFFICIALS TO ISRAEL AND LETTER OF JANUARY 1976. ESSENCE OF THESE LETTERS WAS TO REQUEST INFORMATION IN GOI COOPERATION

WITH ISRAEL RE INVESTIGATION OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. ACCORDING TO SUBJECT DOCUMENT, ISRAELIS DID NOT RESPOND TO UNESCO LETTERS UNTIL FEBRUARY 1976, ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY IT TOLD UNESCO OFFICIALS SENT IN JULY 1975 THAT GOI "UNABLE TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF IN ANY WAY WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION" OF THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS. DOCUMENT SUMMARIZES GOI LETTER OF FEBRUARY 19, 1976 AS (A) PROMISING TO SEND UNESCO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (B) RE-AFFIRMING GOI OPPOSITION RE THIS AND OTHER 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL: BUT (C) INDICATING GOI WOULD WELCOME "ANY MISSION OF SENIOR OFFICIALS WHICH DG MIGHT SEND TO ISRAEL TO DISCUSS QUESTIONS OUTSTANDING BETWEEN GOI AND UNESCO."

6. UNESCO-ARAB CORRESPONDENCE: DOCUMENT SUMMARIZES CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BEGINNING IN MARCH 1975 RECEIVED VARIOUSLY FROM JORDAN, EGYPT, SYRIA, ALECSO, ARAB LEAGUE, PLO AND KUWAIT, WHICH ALLEGED MANY SPECIFIC INSTANCES OF GOI INFRINGEMENT AND /OR ATTACKS UPON EDUCATIONAL-CULTURAL RIGHTS OF POPULATIONS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. ALLEGED GOI ACTIONS CRITICIZED ARE: CENSORSHIP OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS, CLOSING OF SCHOOLS, GOI FAILURE TO EMPLOY QUALIFIED OR SUFFICIENT NUMBERS OF TEACHERS, ATTACKS UPON MOSQUES, AND INTRODUCTION OF SCHOOL CURRICULA ALLEGEDLY DENIGRATING ARAB-ISLAMIC CULTURE AND ALLEGEDLY PRESSURING ARAB STUDENTS TO EITHER LEAVE THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OR TO SWITCH FROM ACADEMIC TO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

7. NOTEWORTHY THAT DOCUMENT IN SOME INSTANCES, E.G. EGYPTIAN RESPONSE, TREATS ARAB ALLEGATIONS AS "FACTS." LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MOREOVER, DOCUMENT SEVERAL TIMES MAKES CRITICAL ALLUSION TO GOI NON- COOPERATION WITH UNESCO IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS RESOLUTION.

8. HOWEVER, ISRAELIS LIKELY TO TAKE STRONGEST EXCEPTION TO SECTION 7 OF DOCUMENT RE "PROSPECTS FOR ACTION" BY UNESCO AS INFRINGEMENTS UPON GOI SOVEREIGNTY. OBSERVING THAT VARIOUS STEPS COULD ONLY BE UNDERTAKEN ON CONDITION THAT ISRAELI AUTHORITIES ACCORD "NECESSARY FACILITIES" TO UNESCO, DOCUMENT STATES THAT FAILING SUCH "FACILITIES" DIRECTOR GENERAL "WOULD FIND HIMSELF OBLIGED TO CONFINE HIS ACTION TO THE PALESTINIAN REFUGEES SETTLED, OR PURSUING STUDIES, IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES." DOCUMENT SAYS THAT DG CONSIDERS UNESCO ACTION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ENSURING ENJOYMENT OF EDUCATIONAL-CULTURAL RIGHTS "IN

ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR NEEDS AND THEIR LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONA." IF ISRAELI AS WELL AS ARAB GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS AGREE, IT IS PROPOSED THAT UNESCO MIGHT ORGANIZE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS AND SPECIALISTS IN CULTURAL FIELDS, HOLD SYMPOSIA AND CREATE PERMANET CENTERS FOR EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ARAB STUDENTS, PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL-CULTURAL MATERIALS TO EXISTING IFNSTITUTIONS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND EXTEND TO OCCUPIED TERRITORIES THE SERVICES OF CENTERS OPERATING IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND WHICH ARE FINANCED IN PART OR IN WHOLE BY UNESCO.

9. IF GOI SHOULD NOT RPT NOT AGREE TO FOREGOING IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, DOCUMENT PROPOSES ENLISTING "PERSONS FROM THE TERRITORIES AS WELL AS THOSE WHO ORIGINALLY CAME FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES," TO PARTICIPATE IN NUMBER OF EDKNATIONAL-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. SUCH PROPOSALS INCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF UNESCO CREATION, " AS A NUMBER OF ARAB STATES WISH," OF A "UNIVERSITY ON THE AIR" TO BROADCAST "EDUCATIONAL-CULTURAL PROGRAMS"TO THE OCCUPIED TERRITORISE, AND CREATION OF A CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ARAB CULTURE IN RPT IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. DOCUMENT NOTES THAT PLO WROTE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL IN MARCH 1976 TO URGE THE CREATION OF "AN ARAB UNIVERSITY IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND THAT PRELIMINARY STUDIES FOR SUCH A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNIVERSITY, BE UNDERTAKEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

10. IN SUM, PERMDEL ENVISAGES STRONG GOI PROTEST THAT DOCUMENT BIASED IN FAVOR OF ARAB CLAIMS ABOUT EDUCATIONAL-CULTURAL SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES THAT UNESCO SECRETARIAT WILL LIKELY RESPOND THAT MINIMAL GOI RESPONSE TO SEVERAL UNESCO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION NECESSARILY MEANT BULK OF DOCUMENT WOULD BE TAKEN UP WITH ARAB CORRESPONDENCE ON ISSUE.

11. COMMENT: PERMDEL. DUE TO THE PRESS OF EXBD SESSIONS, HAS NOT HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS DOCUMENT WITH SECRETARIAT. ISRAEL PERMDELEL SAID APRIL 29 HE HAD NOT YET READ DOCUMENT.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS: PERMDEL WOULD APPRECIATA DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS OF SUBJECT DOCUMENT AND ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT BEARING ON ARAB COMPLAINTS AGAINST ISRAELI OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES.

13. PERMDEL IS BEGINNING SOUNDINGS NOW OF OTHER BOARD MEMBERS AND PERMDELS BUT WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT ISSUE OF

THIS POLITICAL IMPORTANCE WILL IN MOST CASES BE DECIDED BY INSTRUCTIONS FROM RESPECTIVE HOME CAPITALS OF BOARD MEMBERS. THEREFORE PERMDEL RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT CONSIDER UNDERTAKING DEMARCHS OF FOLLOWING CAPITALS-- WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON AFRICANS AND L.A.' S--TO A) MAKE KNOWN US POSITION, B) SEEK SUPPORT FOR US POSITION WHEN ITEM DISCUSSED MAY 24, AND C) ENSURE TO EXTENT POSSIBLE THAT INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE DISPATCHED IN TIME.

14.FUTHER SUGGEST DEAPRTMENT ADVISE NEW US BOARD MEMBER, DR. KAMM, THAT PERMDEL WILL REPRESENT UY POSITION ON THIS SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUE WHEN IT IS DEBATED AND VOTD UPON.

15. BOARD MEMBER CAPITALS SUGGESTED FOR FOREIGN MINISTRY DEMARCHES ARE: AFICA,- ACCRA, COTONOU, KINSHASHA, LOME, LIBREVILLE, OUGADOUGOU AND NAIROBI: LATIN AMERICA- BOGOTA, BUENOS AIRES, BRAZILIA, MONTEVIDEO AND SANTIAGE: ASIA - KATHMANDU, MANILA, NEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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